

Due to the potential of a government shutdown, Congressman Altmire has prepared the following information to give constituents of the Fourth District of Pennsylvania an idea of what to expect in the event of a shutdown. If Congress does not agree to or pass a budget by midnight on Friday, the government will shutdown.

A shutdown temporarily stops all “non-essential” services. Congressman Altmire’s staff will continue to assist constituents to the best of its ability, but please understand that in the event of a shutdown, nearly 900,000 federal employees will be furloughed, making it difficult to conduct business.

Services that are essential for the safety of human life and the protection of property will continue, including the armed forces, border patrol, fire fighting and medical care.

A government shutdown would have the following impact on government services:

- Social Security checks will continue to be mailed, but other services such as enrolling new participants or hearings will be delayed.
- Airports will remain open. TSA and air traffic controllers will remain on the job.
- Taxes must still be postmarked by Monday, April 18, but refunds will be delayed.
- No disruptions to Medicare are expected.
- VA hospitals will remain open, but staffing could be reduced.
- Mail will continue to be delivered, and the Post Office will stay open.
- Passports and visas will not be issued. Embassies will remain open.
- National parks and monuments will be closed.
- Federal courts will operate on a normal schedule.
- Disaster response will not be affected.